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### **BLM Seeks Comments on EA for HPD Portion of February 2017 O&G Lease Sale Parcels**

The Bureau of Land Management High Plains District (HPD) is seeking public comment on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the HPD portion of the February 2017 competitive oil and gas lease sale.

The initial list of parcels derived from public nominations within the HPD contains 318 individual parcels (totaling 235,433 Federal mineral acres) varying in size from 37 to 2,560 acres. Fourteen parcels are located within the Casper Field Office, 24 within the Newcastle Field Office, and 283 within the Buffalo Field Office. They are offered in compliance with the Casper Resource Management Plan/ Record of Decision (RMP/ROD) approved in December 2007, the Newcastle RMP/ROD approved in September 2000, and the Buffalo RMP/ROD approved in September 2015.

The draft EA is available online at: [http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/energy/Oil\\_and\\_Gas/Leasing.html](http://www.blm.gov/wy/st/en/programs/energy/Oil_and_Gas/Leasing.html)

Two alternatives are analyzed: under Alternative A, the No Action, no parcels would be offered for lease; under Alternative B, the Proposed Action, 271 parcels (171,858 Federal mineral acres) would be offered for lease sale.

Public comments are an important component of the National Environmental Policy Act process and help identify issues, concerns and mitigation opportunities not covered in the EA. Mail or deliver written comments to: Randy Sorenson, High Plains District Office, 2987 Prospector Dr., Casper, WY 82604. Comments can be e-mailed to [Casper\\_WYMail@blm.gov](mailto:Casper_WYMail@blm.gov) with "February 2017 Lease Sale Parcels" in the subject line. Comments will be accepted until August 24, 2016.

The public comments and information submitted regarding this project including names, e-mail addresses and street addresses of the respondents will be available for public review and disclosure at the above address during regular business hours (7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) weekdays, except holidays. Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name, address, or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this plainly at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests are honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, are made available for public inspection in their entirety.

For more information, please contact Randy Sorenson at (307) 261-7522 or e-mail [randy\\_sorenson@blm.gov](mailto:randy_sorenson@blm.gov).

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2015, the BLM generated \$4.1 billion in receipts from activities occurring on public lands.

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High Plains District 2987 Prospector Dr. Casper, WY 82604

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